SURAH OF EL-INSHIQAQ

THE RESEARCH:
SURAH OF EL-INSHIQAQ

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://qurahttps://iqra-quran.com/chapters-of-quran/84-al-inshiqaq/
2) n.com/al-inshiqaq

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

BACK

Its Name

- Surah Name: Al-Inshiqaq (سـورة الـانشقاق)
- Translation: The Splitting (or The Rupture)
- Origin of name: The surah takes its name from the word “Inshiqaq” which appears in the first verse, meaning “to split apart” or “to rupture,” referring to the sky splitting open on the Day of Judgment.

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Revelation Period

- Makki or Madani: Makki
- Approximate Time of Revelation: Among the earliest revelations during the Meccan period, after Surah Al-Infitar.

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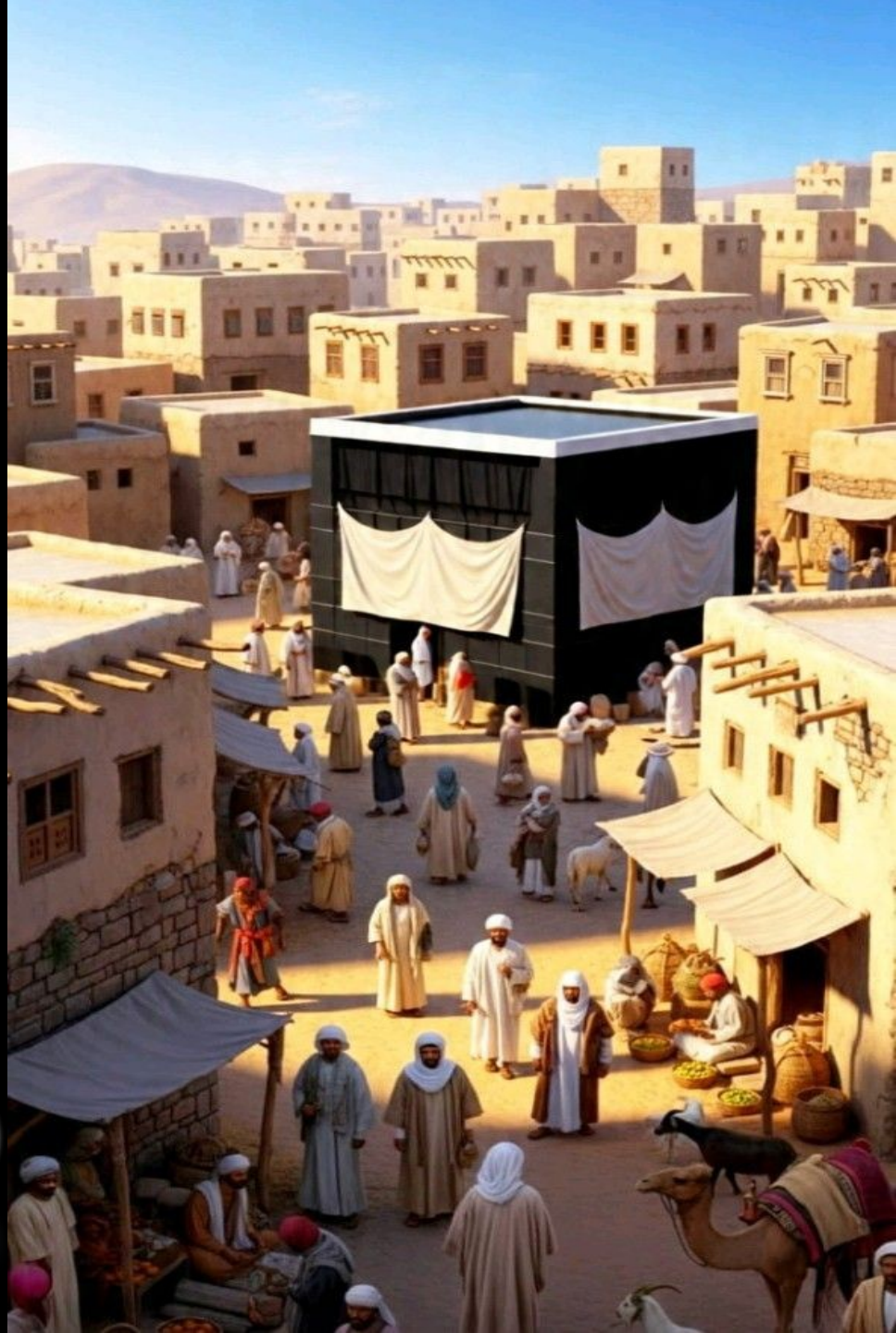


Historical Context

- Surah Al-Inshiqaq was revealed in the early years of Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) mission in Makkah. This period was marked by the Prophet's initial public calls to monotheism and the afterlife. During this time, most Meccan surahs focused on awakening moral consciousness, warning about the Day of Judgment, and highlighting personal responsibility.

BACK

- The Quraysh society was heavily hierarchical and materialistic. Wealthy elites showed arrogance and neglected the poor and needy. People took pride in social status, and those who followed the Prophet’s message were ridiculed. This surah responds by emphasizing accountability before God and portraying vivid scenes of the end times.

BACK

- There is also a narration about resistance to religious practice in this context. When the Prophet recited a verse from Surah Al-Alaq that called for prostration, he and those listening to him did so in worship. However, the Quraysh mocked this act by clapping and whistling. According to some sources, it was at this moment that the verse in Surah Al-Inshiqaq stating, “When the Qur’an is recited to them, they do not prostrate,” was revealed as rebuke.

BACK

- Thus, the surah was revealed in a setting where belief in resurrection and divine judgment was highly contested, and public displays of worship were ridiculed by the disbelievers. The surah's strong imagery and themes of transformation and judgment were aimed at shaking this resistant audience into reflection.

BACK

Main Topics

BACK

- Scenes of the Day of Judgment:

The surah opens with powerful images of the end times: the sky will split open, the earth will be flattened, and everything buried will be thrown out. These events show the seriousness of the coming Day and remind people of its certainty.

BACK

- Record of Deeds and Final Outcome:

People will receive their record of deeds. Those who get their book in their right hand will have an easy account and return joyfully to their families. But those who receive it behind their backs will face a painful punishment because of their arrogance and neglect in the worldly life.

BACK

- Warnings to the Proud and Unjust:

The surah warns those who felt proud or carefree among their people and failed to care for others. These people used their wealth as something that made them feel superior, but in the afterlife, it will not help them.

BACK

- People Move Through Different Stages:

Human life constantly changes—from weakness to strength to weakness again, or from one phase to another—just like the transition from this world to the hereafter. This reminds humans of their temporary nature.

BACK

- Reactions to the Quran:

The surah criticizes those who, when the Quran is recited, refuse to prostrate or accept its message. These people will face painful punishment. In contrast, those who believe and act will receive a never-ending reward from Allah.

BACK

- Prostration and Humility:

A key lesson is the importance of showing humility before Allah, especially when the Quran is heard. Refusing to do so was a sign of arrogance warned against in the surah.

BACK

Key Lessons

- The Day of Judgment will bring major cosmic changes.
- Those who receive their record in their right hand will have an easy judgment and joy.
- Those who receive their record behind their back will face severe punishment for arrogance and neglect.
- Wealth and status in the world do not save a person if they were proud and ungrateful.

BACK

THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2

BACK

إِذَا ٱلسَّمَآءُ ٱنشَقَّتْ ١

When the sky bursts open,

BACK

إِذَا ٱلسَّمَآءُ ٱنشَقَّتْ ﴿١﴾ وَأَذِنَتْ لِرَبِّهَا وَحُقَّتْ ﴿٢﴾ وَإِذَا ٱلْأَرْضُ مُدَّتْ
﴿٣﴾ وَأَلْقَتْ مَا فِيهَا وَتَخَلَّتْ ﴿٤﴾ وَأَذِنَتْ لِرَبِّهَا وَحُقَّتْ ﴿٥﴾ يَٰٓأَيُّهَا

obeying its Lord as it must,

BACK

إِذَا ٱلسَّمَآءُ ٱنشَقَّتْ ﴿١﴾ وَأَذِنَتْ لِرَبِّهَا وَحُقَّتْ ﴿٢﴾ وَإِذَا ٱلْأَرْضُ مُدَّتْ
﴿٣﴾ وَأَلْقَتْ مَا فِيهَا وَتَخَلَّتْ ﴿٤﴾ وَأَذِنَتْ لِرَبِّهَا وَحُقَّتْ ﴿٥﴾ يَٰٓأَيُّهَا

and when the earth is flattened out,

BACK

وَأَلْقَتْ مَا فِيهَا وَتَخَلَّتْ ﴿٤﴾

and ejects [all] its contents[1] and becomes empty,

Footnote – 1

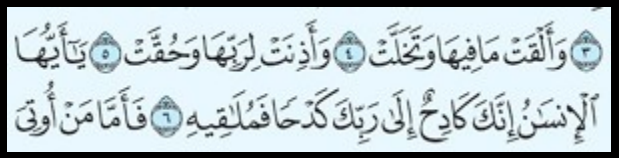
i.e., treasures and dead bodies.

BACK

وَأَذِنَتْ لِرَبِّهَا وَحُقَّتْ ۝٥

obeying its Lord as it must, surely you will all be judged.

BACK



O humanity! Indeed, you are labouring restlessly towards your Lord, and will eventually meet the consequences.

BACK

ٱلْإِنسَٰنُ إِنَّكَ كَادِحٌ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ كَدْحًا فَمُلَٰقِيهِ ﴿٦﴾ فَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ
كِتَٰبَهُۥ بِيَمِينِهِۦ ﴿٧﴾ فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا ﴿٨﴾ وَيَنقَلِبُ

As for those who are given their record in their right hand,

BACK

فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا ﴿٨﴾

they will have an easy reckoning,

BACK

كِتَٰبَهُۥ بِيَمِينِهِۦ ۝٧ فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا ۝٨ وَيَنقَلِبُ
إِلَىٰٓ أَهْلِهِۦ مَسْرُورًا ۝٩ وَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِىَ كِتَٰبَهُۥ وَرَآءَ ظَهْرِهِۦ ۝١٠ فَسَوْفَ

and will return to their people joyfully.

BACK

كِتَٰبَهُۥ بِيَمِينِهِۦ ۝٧ فَسَوۡفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابٗا يَسِيرٗا ۝٨ وَيَنقَلِبُ
إِلَىٰٓ أَهۡلِهِۦ مَسۡرُورٗا ۝٩ وَأَمَّا مَنۡ أُوتِيَ كِتَٰبَهُۥ وَرَآءَ ظَهۡرِهِۦ ۝١٠ فَسَوۡفَ

And as for those who are given their record in their left hand from behind their backs,

BACK

إِلَىٰٓ أَهۡلِهِۦ مَسۡرُورٗا ٩ وَأَمَّا مَنۡ أُوتِيَ كِتَٰبَهُۥ وَرَآءَ ظَهۡرِهِۦ ١٠ فَسَوۡفَ
يَدۡعُواْ ثُبُورٗا ١١ وَيَصۡلَىٰ سَعِيرًا ١٢ إِنَّهُۥ كَانَ فِيٓ أَهۡلِهِۦ مَسۡرُورًا ١٣

they will cry for instant destruction,

BACK

وَيَصْلَىٰ سَعِيرًا ﴿١٢﴾

and will burn in the blazing Fire.

BACK

إِنَّهُۥ كَانَ فِىٓ أَهۡلِهِۦ مَسۡرُورًا ﴿١٣﴾

For they used to be prideful among their people,

BACK

إِنَّهُۥ ظَنَّ أَن لَّن يَحُورَ ١٤

thinking they would never return to Allah.

BACK

بَلَىٰٓ إِنَّ رَبَّهُۥ كَانَ بِهِۦ بَصِيرًا ﴿١٥﴾

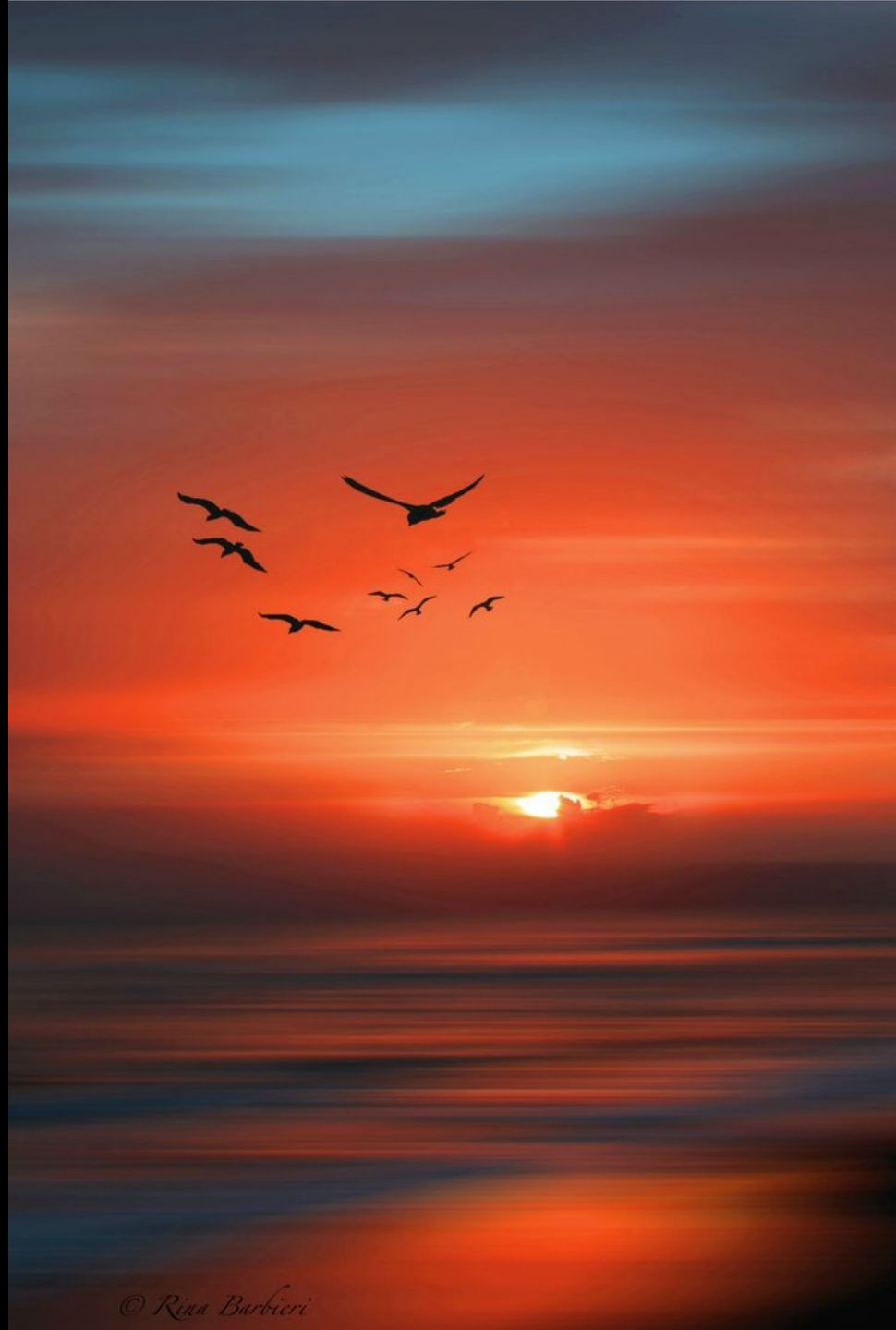
Yes they would! Surely their Lord has always been All-Seeing of them.

BACK

إِنَّهُۥ ظَنَّ أَن لَّن يَحُورَ ﴿١٤﴾ بَلَىٰٓ إِنَّ رَبَّهُۥ كَانَ بِهِۦ بَصِيرًا ﴿١٥﴾ فَلَآ أُقْسِمُ
بِٱلشَّفَقِ ﴿١٦﴾ وَٱلَّيْلِ وَمَا وَسَقَ ﴿١٧﴾ وَٱلْقَمَرِ إِذَا ٱتَّسَقَ ﴿١٨﴾

So, I do swear
by the twilight!

BACK



وَٱلَّيۡلِ وَمَا وَسَقَ ١٧

And by the night and whatever it envelops!

BACK

وَٱلۡقَمَرِ إِذَا ٱتَّسَقَ ١٨

And by the moon when it waxes full!

BACK

لَتَرْكَبُنَّ طَبَقًا عَنْ طَبَقٍ ﴿١٩﴾

You will certainly pass from one state to another.1

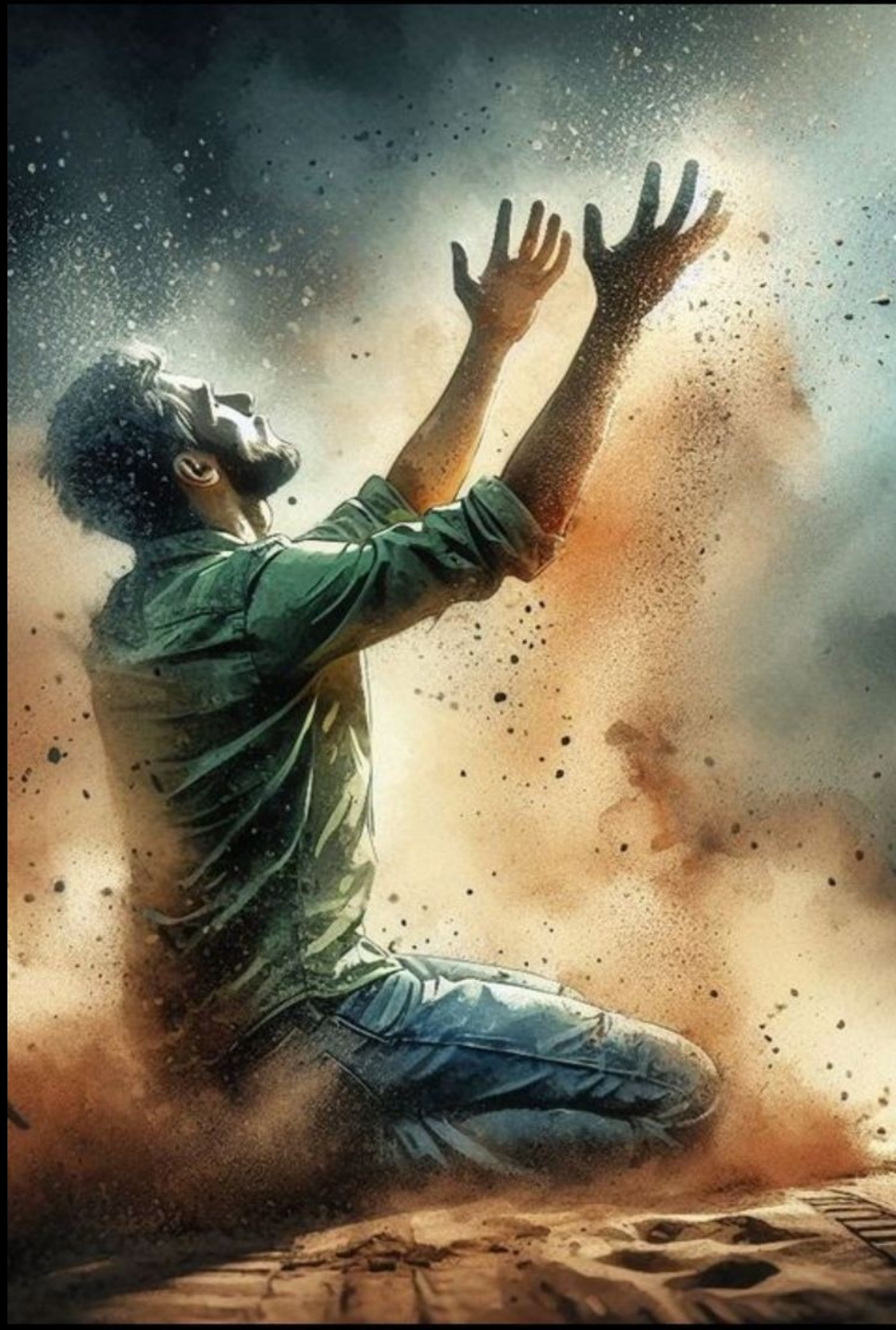
Footnote - 1

You will pass from life to death and from death to resurrection, from well-being to sickness and from sickness to well-being, from poverty to richness and from richness to poverty, etc.

BACK

فَمَا لَهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾

So what is the matter with them that they do not believe,



BACK

لَتَرْكَبُنَّ طَبَقًا عَن طَبَقٍ ﴿١٩﴾ فَمَا لَهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾ وَإِذَا قُرِئَ
عَلَيْهِمُ الْقُرْآنُ لَا يَسْجُدُونَ ﴿٢١﴾ بَلِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يُكَذِّبُونَ

and when the Quran is recited to them, they do not bow down in submission?1

Footnote - 1

lit., they do not prostrate.

BACK

عَلَيۡهِمُ ٱلۡقُرۡءَانُ لَا يَسۡجُدُونَ ۩ ﴿٢١﴾ بَلِ ٱلَّذِينَ كَفَرُواْ يُكَذِّبُونَ
﴿٢٢﴾ وَٱللَّهُ أَعۡلَمُ بِمَا يُوعُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾ فَبَشِّرۡهُم بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴿٢٤﴾

In fact, the disbelievers persist in denial.

BACK

وَٱللَّهُ أَعۡلَمُ بِمَا يُوعُونَ ٢٣

But Allah knows best whatever they hide.

BACK

فَبَشِّرْهُم بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ ﴿٢٤﴾

So give them good news of a painful punishment.

BACK

إِلَّا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ وَعَمِلُواْ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ لَهُمۡ أَجۡرٌ غَيۡرُ مَمۡنُونٖ ٢٥

But those who believe and do good will have a never-ending reward.

BACK

EXCERCISES

BACK

1. Rememberi ng (Recall)

1. What is the meaning of the word *Al-Inshiqaq*?
2. How many verses are in Surah Al-Inshiqaq?
3. In which juz’ of the Qur’an is this surah located?
4. Is this surah Makki or Madani?
5. What major cosmic events are described at the beginning of the surah?

BACK

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1. Explain the imagery of the sky splitting apart in the first verses.
2. What does it mean that the earth will “throw out its burdens”?
3. Describe the difference between the one who receives his record in his right hand and the one who receives it behind his back.
4. Why does the surah emphasize that humans are “toiling toward their Lord”?
5. Summarize the central theme of the surah in your own words

BACK

3. Applying

1. How can the concept of accountability in this surah influence daily behavior?
2. Apply the idea of inevitable meeting with Allah to personal goal-setting and life choices.
3. How can remembering the scenes of the Day of Judgment affect how someone handles injustice?
4. In what ways can this surah encourage resilience during hardship?

BACK

4. Analyzing

1. Analyze the progression of events from cosmic disruption to individual accountability.
2. Compare the emotional tone of the verses describing the righteous and the wicked.
3. What rhetorical devices are used to create urgency and seriousness?
4. Analyze the contrast between worldly illusion and ultimate reality presented in the surah.

BACK

5. Evaluating

1. Why is belief in accountability essential for moral stability? Defend your answer using the surah.
2. Evaluate the impact of ignoring divine guidance according to the surah’s warnings.
3. Do you think the vivid imagery strengthens faith? Why or why not?
4. Assess the relationship between effort in this life and outcome in the Hereafter as described in the surah.

BACK

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1. Create a reflective journal entry inspired by the message of Surah Al-Inshiqaq.
2. Design a concept map showing the relationship between cosmic events, human effort, and final judgment.
3. Write a short speech summarizing the moral lessons of the surah for teenagers.
4. Develop a classroom activity that helps students internalize the theme of accountability in this surah.

BACK

و الحمد لله رب العالمين

BACK